

Nutrition/Health Volume  
Certification Section

Risk Factor 334 Lack of or Inadequate Prenatal Care (2.04270)

ER# 2.04270

Authority 2016 7 CFR 246.7(e)(2)(ii); WIC Policy Memorandum 98-9 Revision 4;  
MPSF:WC-00-24-P

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POLICY Risk Factor 334 shall be assigned to all prenatal women participants who have been identified as having lack of or inadequate prenatal care according to the following criteria.

**Lack of Prenatal Care:**

Prenatal care beginning after the 1st trimester (after 13th week), or based on an Inadequate Prenatal Care Index published in a peer reviewed article (see references list at [USDA Regulations for 334 Lack of or Inadequate Prenatal Care.](#))

**Inadequate Prenatal Care:**

First prenatal visit in the third trimester (7-9 months) or:

Weeks Gestation	Number of Prenatal Visits
14 - 21	0 or unknown
22 - 29	1 or less
30 - 31	2 or less
32 - 33	3 or less
34 or more	4 or less

PROCEDURES:

A. Obtaining Data

Ask the prenatal woman when she began receiving prenatal care.

B. Documenting

Document the prenatal woman's response to the question in MOWINS.

C. Assigning Risk Factor

1. MOWINS will automatically assign the risk factor when the weeks gestation is greater than (>) 13 weeks and the:
  - a. "has not received prenatal care" box is checked; Or
  - b. "has not received prenatal care" box is **not** checked and the Date Prenatal Care Begins is greater than 13 weeks from LMP start date.
2. The certifying staff may also assign the risk factor when the criteria listed in the

above Inadequate Prenatal Care chart is met.

3. Refer to the [Risk Factor Detail Guide](#) for additional information.

D. Provide Appropriate Counseling (See [Counseling Guides](#)). Refer to the [Nutrition Training Manual](#) for more information. Additional education suggestions are located in the USDA Regulations and Justification for the risk factor.

E. **Providing Referrals**

Provide appropriate referral information and document in MOWINS.